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out darkness, if you let it shine. Light is already breaking. "Stars shine through the opening clouds." Two million pages of peace matter have been circulated through the country in the past twelve months. The call is for help—for money to publish, and for laborers in the field.—*W. G. Hubbard, New Vienna, O.*

A GOOD OMEN.—"The Connecticut Battle-Flags," says the *Boston Journal*, "are rotting unseen and unhonored in boxes at the State Arsenal." Warlike patriotism may lament this neglect; but it shows in fact good sense, as well as the silent working of Christian principles. The sooner we can "bury the tomahawk," the sad mementoes of our late domestic conflict, the better for all parties. Family feuds should be forgotten as soon as possible. A brave man, unless a very savage in spirit and character, will not preserve as a sacred relic, the halter with which he hangs a murderer.

AN EMPEROR ON PEACE.—Rulers are often more favorable to measures of peace than is generally supposed. Such doubtless was the case at one time with the Russian war. Stephen Gillette, the distinguished Quaker preacher, a man with very rare excellence and ability, says, in 1819, "The Emperor conversed very freely upon War, and his desire to establish a Congress of Nations to prevent a resort to the sword. He stated, 'His soul's travail had been, that wars and bloodshed might cease forever from the earth; that he had passed sleepless nights on account of it, deeply deploring the woes brought on humanity by war, and that whilst his mind was bowed before the Lord in prayer, the plan of all the crowned heads joining in the conclusion to submit to arbitration whatever differences might arise among them, instead of resorting to the sword, had presented itself to his mind in such a manner, that he rose from bed, and wrote what he had so sensibly felt; that his intentions had been misunderstood or misrepresented by some, but that love to God and to man was his only motive in the Divine sight.' He was in Paris at the time he formed that plan."

CRUELTY IN WAR.

War has been pronounced the natural state of man, and the condition of humanity, meaning the condition in which men hold their mortal life. Without discussing the soundness, of these sayings, it is certain that, so far as human history is known, we find men engaged in contention, and also that war has been one of the greatest of the agencies of Heaven in improving (?) the condition of mankind. We find, also, that in proportion as men become enlightened, they aim at what appear to be two directly contrary ends, namely, to render war effective, and to abate its cruelties. Science has developed the war-making power to a prodigious extent; and at this time a very large part of the ingenuity and industry of the civilized world is directed to perfecting the most murderous weapons, from Rodman guns to pocket-pistols, that ever were known. Every civilized nation is engaged in this kind of work, and each nation is inclined to boast that it has the best artillery and the best rifles ever invented. Ammunition for these weapons is manufactured in immense quantities; and they could be kept firing for years, were war to come, from the stores that have been accumulated.

Yet while these terrible things are so common, we find men laboring most strenuously to abate the horrors of war. Inventions and arrangements to cure are as common, almost,—not quite—as inventions and arrangements to wound or kill; and the spirit of Miss Nightingale may be said to animate the world. European governments, have acted together to ascertain whether the use of certain very destructive agents in war might not be dispensed with, save in extreme cases. We learn from this that the world is half ashamed of its war-like spirit, and yet continues to defer to it. It is very inconsistent,

but perhaps not more so in this instance than it is in many others, for the world cannot be set up as a model of consistency in any respect.

The most notable illustration of the contradictory course of men in regard to war-like work is now afforded by Great Britain. In that country, it is proposed to supply the infantry regiments with what is called "the saw-sword bayonet," such as the armed police of Ireland carry. What is the saw-sword bayonet? It is a stabbing weapon that has a sword edge and a saw back, and a point like a needle, only larger. A more cruel weapon never was invented, not merely because the wound it would inflict almost surely would be fatal, but because that wound would be of a character to inflict suffering altogether unnecessary, and which would render the sufferer's recovery almost impossible in nearly every instance. As the weapon enters the body, it cuts on one side, and *saws*, or tears and rends, on the other; and this sawing process is repeated as the weapon is withdrawn from the body. Thus the wound is first made in a most cruel manner, and then that wound is intensely aggravated by the withdrawal of the weapon that inflicted it, leaving the wounded man in a horrible state, and probably beyond the skill of surgery.

The invention is a satanic one, and the government that should adopt the weapon for its armies would thus far show itself satanically devoted. Even were it the object of war to kill as many men as possible, it would not be right to cause them to die by the infliction of acutely painful wounds; but the most that war aims at is the overthrow of armies, and that can be done as effectually by wounding or capturing soldiers as by killing them. Bad at the best, war should not be made as bad as it can be made by forcing soldiers to use weapons that remind one of those of assassins, poisoned in order that they may be sure to kill. What renders the matter worse is the fact that it rarely happens that men are killed or murdered by the bayonet in fair fight. Two bodies of men rush at each other at the charge; but before bayonets can be crossed, one of these bodies breaks, and those who composed it fly in confusion and terror, and while thus flying, many of them are overtaken and stabbed. Surely, it is not proper to give soldiers more murderous weapons than ever they have had that they may butcher flying foes!—*Examiner and Chronicle.*

WAR PRODIGALITIES.—We see them everywhere, both in individuals and in the government, as the results, clear and unquestionable, of our late conflict. Gen. Grant seems honestly intent on retrenchment and general economy; but war creates, and even compels such enormous expenses, and accumulates such a multitude of official drones, long accustomed to feed as vampires on the public treasury, that it seems well-nigh impossible to shake them off, and introduce habits of real economy. Facts without number are at hand to verify and illustrate these statements. *Perley*, a very reliable correspondent at Washington of the *Boston Journal* (Oct. 27), says:

"Another piece of proposed extravagance is the erection of a new War Department. The building now used had an extra story put on it a few years ago, and it is now large enough for the uses of a peace establishment. But the trouble is that during the war a large number of military officers were brought into the department, to superintend the extra clerks necessarily employed. The work has now fallen off, and scores of extra clerks have been dismissed; but many of the military officers remain, like so many barnacles, and they require rooms and ante-rooms for their dignity. If a score or so of these gentlemen in "blue coats and brass buttons," who now receive three or four thousand dollars each—some of them much more—in the shape of pay, rations, allowances for servants, forage, and commutations in various forms, could be sent to the plains to fight Indians, and clerks appointed in their places, there would be no lack of